



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

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## Census Corner

### Census Corner

On 17 June the ABS was proud to announce the earliest ever launch of Census first release data. Building on this fine achievement, the second release data have also been released early.

From 4 September 2002, the full range of 2001 Census variables have been available for dissemination through the Customised Table Service - ABS' highly trained information consultants can advise you on the range of data options available to best meet your individual needs.

On the same day the ABS published, for free access via the web, the Second Release Summary Publications for Australia and each state and territory. These summaries contain information on education, labour force and journey to work topics. The second release data provide you with a great opportunity to get a more in-depth understanding of Australians and how they live. For this Census, an unprecedented amount of data are being made available free to ensure that the community has the widest possible access to Census information.

On 19 November 2002, we will be releasing the complete set of Basic Community Profiles and Indigenous Profiles, incorporating all second release tables, via the ABS web site or on CD-ROM. The Basic Community Profiles can be accessed free of charge via the ABS web site for all Statistical Local Areas in Australia, while the Indigenous Profile will be free down

to Indigenous Area level. Also to be released on the web on 19 November, the Census Snapshot series will provide narrative extracts on a range of second release data items for every SLA in Australia.

If Internet access is a problem, just call into your local library. On 15 October 2002, libraries across the nation received CLIB 2001. This first release issue of CLIB 2001 contains the first release tables of Basic Community Profiles and Indigenous Profiles, and Classification Counts for all first release variables with selection through a simple map interface - see inside for more details. CLIB 2001 forms an important part of the ABS' on-going commitment to widely disseminate ABS data free of charge to the Australian community.

Included in this edition is an article on CDATA 2001, the most powerful product yet developed using Census data. Released on 26 September, CDATA 2001 combines an immense volume of Census data with MapInfo software providing a desktop analysis package which enables you to analyse and integrate the information and present the results with visual impact. See inside for details of the options available and check out the CDATA demo disk on the ABS web site to see how this package can help your organisation. CDATA users have a major advantage - the ABS provides unlimited, free technical assistance on a toll-free number for the next five years. I strongly urge CDATA purchasers to join the CDATA User Group by registering via the ABS web site - membership is free and you will be able to communicate with ABS staff and other CDATA users to share information and ideas.

A wealth of 2001 Census data have already been released within a year of the Census collection. The next year will be no less challenging for the Census Program. Work has commenced on the Household Sample File, Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) and the second release issues of CDATA and CLIB, plus a program of evaluation studies aimed at identifying and measuring deficiencies which may impact on the accuracy of the data. Progress on development of these products and segments on data quality issues will feature in future editions of Census Update so keep an eye on our web site for upcoming issues.

Jan Kavanagh  
Director Census Processing and User Services

## **Access to Second Release 2001 Census Data**

### **Access to Second Release 2001 Census Data**

On 19 November this year a number of second release 2001 Census data products and services will be made available to the public. In particular the second release components of the BCPs and Indigenous Profiles will be updated on the ABS web site. Access again will be free through the Main ASGC structure down to SLA level for BCPs and down to Indigenous Areas for the Indigenous Profile. Access to other areas will be charged for at a rate of \$10 per selected area.

Census Snapshots containing subsets of Community Profile data, including person counts, age and birthplace, are presented in a narrative format for easy access by a wide audience. These will also be updated on the ABS web site on 19 November to include second release data.

**Census Basics** is a CD-ROM product containing 2001 Census Basic Community Profile data, down to Collection District (CD) level, and digital boundaries in generic formats. Purchasers of first release Census Basics will automatically receive the second release in November 2002.

## **Second Release Basic Community Profiles**

2001 Census second release data includes information on Education, Labour Force, Industry and Occupation as well as many other data items.

The table below shows the content of the second release Basic Community Profiles (BCPs).

### **Second Release**

B22 Selected Characteristics

B23 Non- School Qualification: Level of Education by Sex

B24 Non- School Qualification: Field of Study by Sex

B25 Age by Labour Force Status (Full-time/ Part-time) by Sex

B26 Industry by Age by Sex

B27 Occupation by Age by Sex

B28 Method of Travel To Work by Sex

B29 Number of Motor Vehicles and Number of Motorbikes/ Motor Scooters

B30 Weekly Family Income by Family Type

B31 Weekly Household Income by Household Type

B32 Household Type by Number of Persons Usually Resident

B33 Selected Averages

## **Selected Social and Housing Characteristics and Journey to Work**

### **Selected Social and Housing Characteristics and Journey to Work**

#### **Looking for Selected Social and Housing Statistics for your area?**

The first release 2001 Census data was launched with the release of the National publication **Selected Social and Housing Characteristics, Australia, 2001** (cat. no. 2015.0). This publication contains data for all Statistical Divisions (SD) and Statistical Subdivisions (SSD) within each state and territory. The Basic Community Profile (BCP) at Australia level is also included.

On 12 September this year, the state and territory versions **Selected Social and Housing Characteristics for SLAs** (Cat. no. 2015.1-8) were released providing selected person and dwelling characteristics for Statistical Local Areas (SLAs), SDs and SSDs, as well as ranked tables and the BCP at state/territory level. Person counts on a Usual Residence basis and selected 1996 Census data at SD and SSD levels are also included for comparison.

This publication series covers a range of social and housing statistics produced from the 2001 Census. Primarily consisting of tables, the publications contain census population counts and selected census data describing the characteristics of people living in each area

and their housing arrangements. Commentary is also provided, including a state or territory summary, regional comparisons for selected topics and time series comparisons. To purchase any of these publications phone 1300 135 070.

**Are you waiting for 2001 Census data on Education, Labour Force or Journey to Work? Well the wait is over ... if you are after customised tables.**

On 4 September 2002, second release 2001 Census data was made available through ABS Information Consultancy in the form of customised tables. Combined with the first release data, which became available on June 17, clients have the opportunity to have customised tables tailored to meet their specific requirements. This service provides added flexibility in the selection and cross classification of a number of census variables for geographic areas specified by the user.

To discuss your requirements call the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

## **Social Atlases - A bird's eye view of your capital city**

### **A bird's eye view of your capital city - Social Atlas Series coming soon**

If you need statistics about your capital city and prefer information to be presented on maps rather than in tables, the 2001 Social Atlases are your answer.

The maps present, at a glance, a picture of the key social, demographic and economic characteristics of the urban centres of each state and territory capital city. The maps are easy to interpret as the distribution of the data is represented by different colours or shadings. Informative commentary is also provided with each map, highlighting the main features and trends in the data.

A common core set of maps is included for each publication and these are presented under the broad categories of population, ethnicity, education, families, income, labour force and dwellings. Each Social Atlas also includes maps that highlight any unique attributes pertaining to that particular capital city. For example, the Perth Atlas has maps showing the number of people born in Southern Europe as well as the number of people who worked in the Perth CBD, while the Darwin/Palmerston Atlas features maps on couples without dependant children and people employed in the government sector.

Topics are mapped by Census Collection Districts (CD), the smallest geographic area used for collection and dissemination. In towns and cities there are usually between 200 to 300 dwellings in each CD.

Presented in a convenient A4 format and spiral bound for ease of use, the atlases are a colourful and readily understood reference. Additional reference maps -Statistical Local Areas, Postal Areas and Location Maps -are also included.

The Minister responsible for the ABS, The Honourable Senator Mr Ian Campbell will officially launch the Social Atlas series in Perth on 28, October 2002. Social Atlases for Perth, Sydney and Hobart will be the first released.

The Social Atlases will be made available through standard ABS dissemination methods:

electronically through ABS@, the ABS web site, in hardcopy from ABS Bookshops or call 1300 135 070 to order over the phone.

### **Release timetable for Social Atlases**

Perth, October 2002

Sydney, October 2002

Hobart, October 2002

Adelaide, November 2002

Brisbane, December 2002

Canberra, February 2003

Darwin & Palmerston, February 2003

Melbourne, February 2003

## **Releasing the power of CDATA**

### **Releasing the power of CDATA**

CDATA 2001 is a powerful desktop analysis package which uses MapInfo Professional V7 as the Geographic Information System (GIS) to map 2001 Census data. Developed jointly by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and MapInfo Australia, CDATA 2001 gives you access to a wide range of census data including age, income, education, transport, housing, computer usage, religion and more.

With CDATA 2001, clients can choose the demographic characteristics of interest, select the geographic areas required and view the data as thematic maps, graphs and reports. Detailed analysis of the population is integral to effective planning. It is vital for new businesses or those looking to expand or diversify and for government agencies in establishing community services.

Extensive user consultations undertaken by the ABS prior to the conduct of the 2001 Census have resulted in two CDATA options being developed:

CDATA 2001 - Full GIS which uses MapInfo Professional version 7.0 as the mapping engine;

and CDATA 2001 - Quickbuild which contains reduced Geographic Information System (GIS) software functionality but still provides complete access to the same range of statistical and boundary data available in the Full GIS option.

The availability of two options satisfies a wider range of user requirements, offering different levels of functionality and pricing. Further benefits of CDATA 2001 are the ability to upgrade Quickbuild to the Full GIS at any time and the availability of Add-On Datapacks which allow for greater value and flexibility to be built into the CDATA package.

CDATA has helped numerous organisations in an array of industries such as: Government (Commonwealth, State and Local), Education, Finance, Marketing, Insurance and Retail, achieve their goals.

CDATA 2001 is accompanied by extensive free product support to clients through the ABS' Census Technical Helpline, and guarantees access to expert personnel to discuss all aspects of the package from data to software.

A CDATA User Group has been established by the ABS to facilitate discussion of the product and its applications. Membership is free and is expected to assist users make more

effective use of the CDATA product. [Click here](#) for more information on CDATA

### **Enhance CDATA 2001 with Detailed Base Map**

CDATA 2001 includes Basic Base Map Data which shows details such as major roads and rivers, railway lines and town centres. This detail enables identification of major landmarks or features to help create customised regions to suit users specific needs. The Base Map Data is a useful tool for any organisation's sales force.

Detailed Base Map, a companion product to CDATA 2001, is also now available. Detailed Base Map information makes identification of relevant features faster and more accurate. It includes streets and features such as post offices, police stations, airports, railway stations, national parks, schools, caravan parks, churches, hospitals and more.

Detailed Base Map data is not restricted to just metropolitan and regional areas within a state. In most cases, there is an extensive coverage of the entire state. If you require more information on CDATA 2001 call the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or email [client.services@abs.gov.au](mailto:client.services@abs.gov.au)

### **CDATA 2001 Registration**

New to the CDATA User Group is a facility to allow clients to apply for their CDATA 2001 Registration codes via email. Simply complete the requested fields (see example) and email the details to the User Group database. A registration code will then be supplied via return email. To register your copy of CDATA go to the CDATA User Group home page and follow the CDATA 2001 Registration links.

## **CLIB 2001 - Census@Library**

### **CLIB 2001 - Census@Library**

CLIB 2001 is available to eligible libraries through the ABS Library Extension Program (LEP). Members of the LEP include public libraries, TAFE and university libraries, the Commonwealth and State Parliamentary libraries and the National and State Libraries who are all eligible to receive a free copy of CLIB 2001 for use by the general public.

CLIB contains a huge amount of 2001 Census information. Users can access data for as large an area as Australia, right down to the smallest geographic area - Collection District. The complete 2001 Census Community Profile Series\* and Classification Counts will be available on CLIB 2001. CLIB 2001 attracts many library users who need tabulated data, either as complete tables for small areas or as a number of data item comparisons for a set of areas.

Sophisticated software provided with CLIB 2001 ensures a user-friendly and intuitive interface which provides flexible topic and area search facilities. Area selections for this product are made easier via a drill-down map that incorporates key geographical identifiers.

All LEP member libraries will automatically be sent a copy of CLIB 2001. Other libraries may request a copy by emailing [library@abs.gov.au](mailto:library@abs.gov.au), enclosing full name and contact details.

For more information see the [click here](#) for the CLIB Product Brief

When is CLIB 2001 available?

Release 1 15 October 2002. Contains the Basic Community Profile (BCP), the Indigenous Profile (IP) and the Classification Counts for all first release variables.

Release 2 April 2003. Includes the Basic Community Profile (BCP), the Indigenous Profile (IP) and the Classification Counts for all second release variables, and the Time Series Profile.

Release 3 September 2003. Includes the entire Community Profile Series.

## **2001 Census Papers**

### **2001 Census Papers**

There will again be a large amount of additional reference information made available to 2001 Census data users. This information will assist users to better understand the issues and results of the 2001 Census.

Census Papers (formerly known as Working Papers), Fact Sheets and Technical papers will be made available as they are developed.

Recent additions to the list of fact sheets on the ABS web site include:

Fact Sheet: Religious Affiliation

Fact Sheet: Postcodes and Census Data

Fact Sheet: Confidentiality of Census Output

Fact Sheet: Census Miscellaneous Collection Districts

## **ACAP - Research projects awarded**

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The Census provides a vast source of information on Australia's ethnic diversity, labour force activity, income, housing and many other topics for small geographic areas and small population groups. When Census data are combined with other statistical and information bases the potential for research and analysis is virtually limitless.

The standard output planned for the 2001 Census includes a series of products, some of which may be considered analytic in nature. However, these are limited in scope, presenting general analyses about segments of the population. The objective of the Australian Census Analytic Program (ACAP) is to extend beyond summary analyses. ACAP is a collaborative venture between the ABS and selected researchers to provide substantive and in-depth analyses for selected themes which will often cut across traditional "subject matter" boundaries.

ACAP was introduced to assist and encourage the conduct of issue-driven research on topics critical to the development of Australian society. It is hoped that it will add to the understanding of major socio-economic trends and issues in Australia, and contribute to the

development of Australia's social and economic policy agenda over the next decade. Last year, researchers from both government and private sectors were invited to submit research proposals. An evaluation of the proposals submitted was conducted by the ACAP Steering Committee and proponents were advised of the results in July 2002.

The ABS is pleased to announce the awarding of eight research projects:

Counting the Homeless in 2001

Dr Chris Chamberlain - School of Political and Social Inquiry, Monash University & Mr David MacKenzie - RMIT University

To establish the extent of homelessness in Australia at the time of the 2001 Census, using Census data complemented by data from other surveys of youth homelessness and users of support services. It will also for the first time, provide reliable information on the change in the homeless population over time. It will draw on earlier research using 1996 Census data which was published in Counting the Homeless: Implications for Policy Development (ABS cat. no. 2041.0).

Australia's Most Recent Immigrants

Professor Graeme Hugo - GISCA, Adelaide University

A comprehensive analysis of who Australia's recent immigrants are, including how they have adjusted to Australian conditions, their impact on the labour market, the housing sector etc. This monograph will also examine where recent immigrants live and their effects on population distribution as well as making comparisons with older immigrant and Australian-born communities.

STRALIAN CENSUS ANALYTIC PROGRAM

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Digital Divide? Who Uses Computers and the Internet in Australia Today?

**Rachel Lloyd, Ben Phillips & Harry Greenwell - NATSEM, University of Canberra**

This project will examine the social, economic and regional factors which impact on computer and Internet use in 2001. The 2001 Census provides the first real opportunity for regional analysis of computer and Internet use in households by looking at a range of socio-economic factors including age, sex, income level, educational qualifications, and dependent children.

Factors Underlying Indigenous Labour Force Status, 1981 - 2001

**Dr Boyd Hunter - CAEPR, Australian National University**

To describe the current state of the Indigenous labour market focussing on the last two censuses but also describing trends going back to the 1971 Census. This monograph will place emphasis on structuring the economic analysis into supply and demand side approaches to Indigenous involvement in the labour market. Thus it will examine demographic trends and changes in labour force participation rates as well as the industry and occupation of Indigenous people who are employed. In doing so the project will also examine the impact of changing indigenous identification between censuses on such analysis.

The Emergence of Low Fertility in Australia; Family Formation and Social Characteristics

**Prof Peter McDonald & Rebecca Kippen - Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University**

To provide background to the underlying causes of low fertility in Australia using detailed analyses of Australian fertility trends by birth order and social characteristics from 1978 to 2001. The family formation patterns of women (in effect a birth history of women showing birth order and intervals between births) will be cross classified by socio-economic characteristics such as household type, labour force status, level of education, hours of work and ethnicity. The results may then be used in providing a method for predicting future fertility in the medium term.



Ethnic Diversity, Ethnic Intermixture and the Development of "Australian Ancestry"

**Dr Siew-Ean Khoo, Dr Dimitria Giorgas, Dr David Lucas - Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University**

To examine a number of issues relating to ethnic diversity, ethnic intermixture and the development of the concept of "Australian Ancestry" through a comprehensive analysis of the Census ancestry data. This monograph will look at the trend in ethnic diversity since 1986 when a similar question on ancestry was asked. The project will also look closely at issues such as persons stating multiple ancestries, the heterogeneity of birthplace groups, patterns in ethnic intermarriage, generational differences and the characteristics of those who stated "Australian" ancestry as a sole or multiple response.

Understanding the Changing Structure of Rural Communities

**Dr Neil Barr - Centre for Land Protection Research, National Resources and Environment Victoria**

To provide a better understanding of the changes within rural Australia, particularly in the farm sector and the implications for resource management. While rural adjustment trends are well documented in other countries such as Canada and the United States, this is not so in Australia. The project will explore methods of combining socio-economic data of persons and households from the Population Census, with agricultural activity data from farms as collected by the Agricultural Census to help provide some answers.

Australia's Caring Labour Force

**Dr Gabrielle Meagher & Dr Karen Healy - School of Economics and Political Science, University of Sydney**

This project will examine the composition, structure and dynamics of the labour force involved in direct community service provision in Australia. There is increasing demand for high quality caring services and this project will examine factors and constraints that may impact on service delivery. It will examine such questions as who the care workers are, what are their resources and skills, how well do their skills match the occupation requirements, what is their quality of employment (ie. working arrangements and remuneration), and what is their geographic and ethnic distribution.

ACAP will lead to the publication of important information incorporating 2001 Census and other data in the form of monographs, which has not previously been published. It is expected that these monographs will be published from November 2003.

## **Planning is underway for the 2006 Census**

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**By Andrew Lamb Acting Director, Population Census Development and Field Organisation**

The focus for the 2001 Census field operation was on the underlying processes and structures for distribution and collection of Census forms. The aim of concentrating on these factors was to reduce the amount of administrative work undertaken by field staff, enabling them to focus on enumeration outcomes. Evaluation to date has shown that while these initiatives were implemented successfully, there is still scope for improvement in the detail for the 2006 Census.

Experience from the 2001 Census has indicated that the current drop off/collect methodology, while very successful in most of Australia, struggled to achieve the desired

results in certain physical locations. Security buildings proved to be a greater problem than in the past where extra security measures (such as restricting access of visitors to single floors) have made it even more difficult for collectors to make contact with the Australian public. Even non-secure apartment buildings presented their own problems, largely due to the lifestyle of many residents.

For 2006, it is proposed that in these locations, in addition to promoting the use of an Internet form, householders will be asked to mail back their Census forms.

Detailed planning and preparation for a full scale test, to be conducted in Sydney in October 2002, is under way. The major objectives of this are the testing of question and form design, and procedures for mailing back forms, along with new strategies for dealing with secure apartment buildings.

## Socio-Economic Indexes - review underway

### Socio-Economic Indexes - review underway

For the past three censuses, the ABS has produced five summary indexes designed to measure different aspects of socio-economic conditions by geographic area.

These indexes, known as SEIFA (Socio-economic Indexes for Areas), are lifestyle groupings of Australia's communities. They reveal where the affluent, the disadvantaged or the highly skilled live - ideal for business or research to assist in identifying the areas in which target lifestyle groups live. In the past, the indexes have been calculated using a technique called Principal Components Analysis which takes a number of correlated variables and calculates one index which represents most of the information in the original set of variables. The SEIFA were last reviewed in 1991.

A review team, in consultation with the user community, is now looking at:

- what variables should be included in the 2001 SEIFA indexes
- the method used for calculating the indexes
- what documentation and information should be released to assist users understand the indexes and
- how the indexes are validated.

SEIFA 2001 is currently scheduled for release in September 2003. The outcomes of this review and progress reports on SEIFA development and release will be reported in future issues of **Census Update**.

## About this Release

A periodic newsletter to keep clients informed of developments in Census products and services. Highlights recent and forthcoming releases, provides comments on census data and advises of user forums.

In this issue of Census Update we highlight the major releases from the 2001 Census - CDATA 2001 and CLIB 2001.

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